Mr. Sankarappa.—Yes. I have brought a mahazar from them.

Dewan's reply.—The representation will be looked into. The existing arrangements were ordered after due enquiry and consideration of local interests.

Subject No. 37.

Act XIII of 1859, and reciprocity in the matter of Extradition and registration of Cooly Dafadars.

Summary of discussion.—Mr. Digby Brett on behalf of the Northern Mysore Planters' Association said that he had been specially desired to refer to the working of Act XIII of 1859 and spoke to the following effect:—

On two previous occasions, Messrs. Graham Anderson and Clifford ably stated the case for the Planters and the Government promised to enquire into the matter and see what could be done to remedy their difficulties. But nothing seemed to have been done and Planters were still, as regards the working of this Act, in much the same position as in 1888, when Mr. Graham Anderson first asked assistance from the Government. The refusal of the Government of India to allow the Extradition Act to apply to defaulting Mestris and Coolies placed Planters at a great disadvantage. If they desired to obtain labor from British Territory, they were obliged to incur great risks, and annually large sums of money were lost in advances. The result of this from the Planters' point of view was a direct encouragement to commit fraud and it further tended to demoralize the laboring classes in British Territory bordering on the Mysore State, for, the necessities of the Planters were well known as well as their helplessness, should the laborer fail to fulfil his contract. Again, the rules for the official registration of Dafadars which at the request of the Supreme Government had been recently passed by the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore materially assisted non-residents of Mysore; but to Planters in Mysore they were of little or no assistance. Similar registration within British Territory would be of some avail to the Mysore Planter but even to this small extent reciprocity has been refused. Mr. Brett then went on to say "under the enlightened "Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, assisted "by very able Administrators, the State of Mysore is by "every one admittedly well governed, and it therefore seems "a curious anomaly that the Supreme Government should "withhold that degree of confidence which would justify the "Mysore State being entrusted with the necessary discretionary "powers. On the other hand assistance is freely given not "only to our own Colonial possessions but to any foreign "power indenting on India for a share of its surplus labor. "The Associations of Southern India are about to combine and "petition for alterations in Act XIII of 1859, but pending "such revision of the Act, may I point out to the Govern-

" ment of Mysore that it would be of great assistance, if the " Appellate and Revisionary Courts would consider the position " of Planters as regards distance, time and seasons and oblige " the local Magistracy under proper supervision to exercise " the discretion, which the spirit of the Act permits according " to the circumstances of each case. The punishments now " awarded are much below the limits allowed by the Act and " do not act as a preventive of fraud but rather the contrary; " as the defaulting laborer sees how easily he can, at a minmium " of personal discomfort, escape with our money in his pocket. " I have now shortly stated our case as regards the diffi- " culties in this question. Necessarily time is limited and I " have been obliged to omit many points of detail but I would " ask the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of My- " sore to make a fresh appeal to the Supreme Government and " I would suggest that as compared with other Native States " in India, Mysore, having a large resident European commu- " nity engaged in a special industry, has, among other reasons, " a claim for exceptional consideration."

Dewan's reply.—The Darbar will again approach the Government of India on the subject of this representation and will with pleasure ask the Government of India to concede reciprocity in cases arising under Act XIII of 1859, and thus to place the large Planting industry of Mysore on a footing of equality as regards supply of labor and facilities for the enforcement of labor contracts. The Darbar will also submit to the Government of India for favorable consideration the question of adopting in British Territory rules similar to those which have been introduced into Mysore for the registration of Cooly Mestris. If the combined efforts of Planters' Associations in Southern India succeed in securing for them an improved and more satisfactory enactment for the enforcement of labor contracts, the Darbar will be prepared at once to adopt the same with such modifications as local circumstances may render desirable. In the meanwhile the representation now made will be brought to the notice of the Chief Court with a view to every consideration being given to it and the necessary steps being taken to ensure an efficient working of the Act XIII of 1859 as it stands, by the issue of such instructions for the guidance of the Magistracy as may be called for from time to time.

Subject No. 38. New Cattle Trespass Act.

Summary of discussion.—Adverting to the losses annually sustained and the difficulties of Coffee Planters in the matter of trespass by cattle, Mr. Brett asked whether the revised Act now under consideration by the Supreme Government will be extended to Mysore.